General Assembly

Distr.: General
1 February 2001

Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 95

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/55/582/Add.8)*]

55/198. Enhancing complementarities among international instruments related to environment and sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling Agenda 21[1] and the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21adopted at its nineteenth special session,[2] and its resolutions 53/186 of 15 December 1998, 53/242 of 28 July 1999 and 54/217 of 22 December 1999,

Reaffirming the need, as stipulated in the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21, for greater coherence in various intergovernmental organizations and processes by means of better policy coordination at the intergovernmental level, as well as for continued and more concerted efforts to enhance collaboration among the secretariats of relevant decision-making bodies, within their respective mandates,

Emphasizing the need for the conferences of the parties and the secretariats of the environmental conventions to continue to pursue sustainable development objectives that are consistent with those conventions and with Agenda 21,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on international institutional arrangements related to environment and sustainable development;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the work undertaken by the secretariats of the instruments related to environment and sustainable development and other relevant organizations to implement resolution 54/217;

3. *Encourages* the conferences of the parties to, and the secretariats of, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[4] the Convention on

[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.
[2] Resolution S-19/2, annex.
[3] A/55/357.
[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

Biological Diversity[5] and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa,[6] and other international instruments related to environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, especially the United Nations Environment Programme, including, as appropriate, the involvement of the environmental management group, to continue their work for enhancing complementarities among them with full respect for the status of the secretariats of the conventions and the autonomous decision-making prerogatives of the conferences of the parties to the conventions concerned, and to strengthen cooperation with a view to facilitating progress in the implementation of those conventions at the international, regional and national levels and to report thereon to their respective conferences of the parties;

4. *Also encourages* the conferences of the parties, assisted by their secretariats, to coordinate the timing of their sessions and the sessions of their subsidiary bodies, taking into account the organization of work of the General Assembly and the Commission on Sustainable Development;

5. *Further encourages* the conferences of the parties to promote the streamlining of national reporting;

6. *Invites* the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, and other international instruments related to environment and sustainable development, as well as relevant organizations, to provide further information on their work to implement resolution 54/217 and other complementary activities in their contributions to the preparatory process for the review of the implementation of Agenda 21, to be carried out in 2002;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take into account the above-mentioned work in the preparation of documentation and other preparatory activities for the review of the implementation of Agenda 21, to be carried out in 2002.

87th plenary meeting
20 December 2000

[5] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.
[6] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.